

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-37 (canceled)

Claim 38 (previously presented): A method for forming a pressure-sensitive adhesive construction comprising the steps of:

applying a layer of pressure-sensitive adhesive to a release surface of a removable substrate;

simultaneously applying a film-forming material onto a surface of the pressure-sensitive adhesive layer to form a continuous film thereover and render the pressure-sensitive adhesive tack free, wherein the film-forming material has a viscosity that is within a range of viscosities that is compatible with the viscosity of the pressure-sensitive adhesive at a shear rate of approximately 40,000 s⁻¹ and at a given application temperature;

laminating an overlamine film layer onto the continuous film; and

forming a printed indicia onto one of the continuous film or a backside surface of the overlamine film layer adjacent the continuous film.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 38 further comprising the step of heating one of the continuous film or the overlamine film layer before the step of laminating to provide an adhesive surface for subsequent lamination with the other of the continuous film or the overlamine film layer.

Claim 40 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 38, wherein the continuous film is formed from a material having a viscosity within eight times the viscosity of the

pressure-sensitive adhesive at a shear rate of approximately 40,000 s⁻¹ and at a given application temperature.

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method as recited is claim 40, wherein the given application temperature is from about 150° to about 180°C.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 38 wherein the steps of applying the pressure-sensitive adhesive layer and applying the film-forming material are done in a single step.

Claim 43 (previously presented): A method for forming a pressure-sensitive adhesive construction comprising the steps of:

applying a pressure-sensitive adhesive material to a release surface of a removable substrate;

applying a film-forming material onto a surface of the pressure-sensitive adhesive material, while the pressure-sensitive adhesive material is in a non-final state, to form a continuous film thereover and render the pressure-sensitive adhesive tack free;

laminating an overlamine film layer onto the continuous film; and

forming a printed indicia onto one of the continuous film or a backside surface of the overlamine film layer adjacent the continuous film.

Claim 44 (canceled)

Claim 45 (currently amended): ~~The method as recited in claim 44~~ A method for forming a pressure-sensitive adhesive construction comprising the steps of:

applying a pressure-sensitive adhesive material to a release surface of a removable substrate;

applying a film-forming material onto a surface of the pressure-sensitive adhesive material, while the pressure-sensitive adhesive material is in a non-final state, to form a continuous film thereover and render the pressure-sensitive adhesive tack free;

laminating an overlamine film layer onto the continuous film;

forming a printed indicia onto one of the continuous film or a backside surface of the overlamine film layer adjacent the continuous film;

wherein the steps of applying the pressure-sensitive adhesive material and applying the film-forming material are done simultaneously in a single step; and

wherein the film-forming material has a viscosity that is within a range of viscosities that is compatible with the viscosity of the pressure-sensitive adhesive material at a shear rate of approximately 40,000 s⁻¹ and at a given application temperature.

Claim 46 (currently amended): A ~~continuous~~ method for forming an overlaminated pressure-sensitive adhesive construction comprising the steps of:

forming a prelamine pressure-sensitive adhesive construction comprising:

applying a layer of pressure-sensitive adhesive material to a release surface of a removable substrate;

applying a film-forming material onto a surface of the pressure-sensitive adhesive material to form a continuous film thereover and render the pressure-sensitive adhesive material tack free;

forming a printed indicia onto a surface of the prelamine pressure-sensitive construction; and

applying an overlamine film layer onto the surface of the printed indicia; and

wherein the steps of applying the layer of pressure-sensitive adhesive material, applying the film-forming material, forming the printed indicia, and applying the overlamine film layer are done as part of a continuous process.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 46 wherein the pressure-sensitive adhesive material and the film-forming material can each be applied in the form of a hot melt, an emulsion, or a solution.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 46 wherein the film-forming material is applied onto the pressure-sensitive adhesive layer before the pressure-sensitive adhesive material is fully cured.

Claim 49 (previously presented): ~~The method as recited in claim 46~~ A continuous method for forming an overlaminated pressure-sensitive adhesive construction comprising the steps of:

forming a prelaminated pressure-sensitive adhesive construction comprising:

applying a layer of pressure-sensitive adhesive material to a release surface of a removable substrate;

applying a film-forming material onto a surface of the pressure-sensitive adhesive material to form a continuous film thereover and render the pressure-sensitive adhesive material tack free;

forming a printed indicia onto a surface of the prelaminated pressure-sensitive construction; and

applying an overlaminated film layer onto the surface of the printed indicia; and

wherein the pressure-sensitive adhesive material and the film-forming material are applied simultaneously in a single step.

Claim 50 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 46 wherein the pressure-sensitive adhesive material and the film-forming material are applied sequentially.

Claim 51 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 46 wherein the overlamine film layer is formed from an optically transparent polyolefinic material.

Claim 52 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 46 wherein the step of applying the overlamine film layer comprises pressure laminating the overlamine film layer to the prelamine pressure-sensitive adhesive construction.

Claim 53 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 46 wherein, before the step of pressure laminating, treating the overlamine film to provide a tacky surface for interfacing with the prelamine pressure-sensitive adhesive construction.

Claim 54 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 46 further comprising, after the step of applying the overlamine film, converting the pressure-sensitive adhesive construction comprising the steps of:

cutting the pressure-sensitive adhesive construction into a desired configuration; and stripping away a portion of the cut pressure-sensitive adhesive construction.

Claim 55 (previously presented): The method as recited in claim 54 wherein the step of converting is performed by die cutting and matrix stripping technique.

Claim 56 (previously presented): The method in claim 54 wherein the step of converting is performed separately from the step of forming the pressure-sensitive adhesive construction.